

REMARKS

In view of the restriction requirement discussed below, Applicants have amended the claims to limit group A to pyrazoles and have also canceled Claims 27-33. The claims remain fully supported in the specification.

Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. 121

The Office Action requires restriction to one of the following groups:

- Group I: Claims 18-26, drawn to a process for preparing fluoromethyl-substituted heterocycles of formula (I) in which A is a pyrazole ring substituted by R⁴
- Group II: Claims 18-26, drawn to a process for preparing fluoromethyl-substituted heterocycles of formula (I) in which A is a thiazole ring substituted by R⁴
- Group III: Claims 18-26, drawn to a process for preparing fluoromethyl-substituted heterocycles of formula (I) in which A is an oxazole ring substituted by R⁴
- Group IV: Claims 27 and 28, drawn to a process for preparing fungicidally active carboxamides of formula (VII) in which A is a pyrazole ring substituted by R⁴
- Group V: Claims 27 and 28, drawn to a process for preparing fungicidally active carboxamides of formula (VII) in which A is a thiazole ring substituted by R⁴
- Group VI: Claims 27 and 28, drawn to a process for preparing fungicidally active carboxamides of formula (VII) in which A is an oxazole ring substituted by R⁴
- Group VII: Claims 29-31, drawn to chloromethyl-substituted heterocycle intermediates of formula (II) in which A is a pyrazole ring substituted by R⁴
- Group VIII: Claims 29, 32, and 33, drawn to chloromethyl-substituted heterocycle intermediates of formula (II) in which A is a thiazole ring substituted by R⁴
- Group IX: Claim 29, drawn to chloromethyl-substituted heterocycle intermediates of formula (II) in which A is an oxazole ring substituted by R⁴

Applicants elect without traverse Group I of the Office Action, which includes Claims 18-26 to the extent limited to embodiments in which A is a pyrazole ring.

Applicants respectfully submit that their invention as now claimed is sufficiently narrow that examination would not be unduly burdensome. See Office Action at page 5. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter.

In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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